

Application/Control No.: 10/733,825
Response mailed April 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2005

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,155,122 (Eckert et al.) and U.S. Patent No. 6,325,391 (Smith et al.). The Examiner rejected claims 10-13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eckert et al. and Smith et al., and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,184,818 (Meinel). the Examiner rejected claims 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eckert et al., Smith et al., and Meinel in view of G.B. 2385478 A (Gregory). Finally, the Examiner rejected claims 20 and 22-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eckert et al., Smith et al., Meinel, and Gregory.

The Examiner further objected to claims 8, 14, and 21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated that he would allow them if they were rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-26 and has added new independent claims 27-28. These new independent claims are the prior objected claims 8, 14, and 21, respectively, rewritten as suggested by the Examiner to overcome the objection. Accordingly, Applicants believe new claims 26-28 are in complete condition for immediate allowance and respectfully request notice to that effect.

Applicants believe no additional fee is due as a result of this response. However, if any charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account 23-3000. Finally,

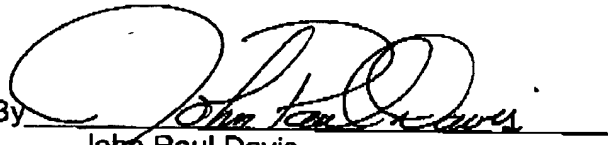
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the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if there are any questions or additional concerns with regard to this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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